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National Agricultural
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West Virginia Field Office

in cooperation with

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RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production during September 2018 totaled 800,000 pounds. This was down 6 percent from September 2017. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 956,000 pounds live weight, down 8 percent from September 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,000 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 38 pounds from the previous year, at 961 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 260,000 pounds live weight, down 12 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 900 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 298 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States - Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.19 billion pounds in September, down 5 percent from the 4.41 billion pounds produced in September 2017.

Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.62 million head, down 3 percent from September 2017. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,358 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.0 million pounds, 1 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 48,600 head, up 11 percent from September 2017. The average live weight was down 26 pounds from last year, at 215 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.01 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.65 million head, down 6 percent from September 2017. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 280 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.4 million pounds, was up 1 percent from September 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 172,700 head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 4 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2018 commercial red meat production was 39.5 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up 1 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 5 percent.

September 2017 contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays. September 2018 contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.

TURKEYS RAISED

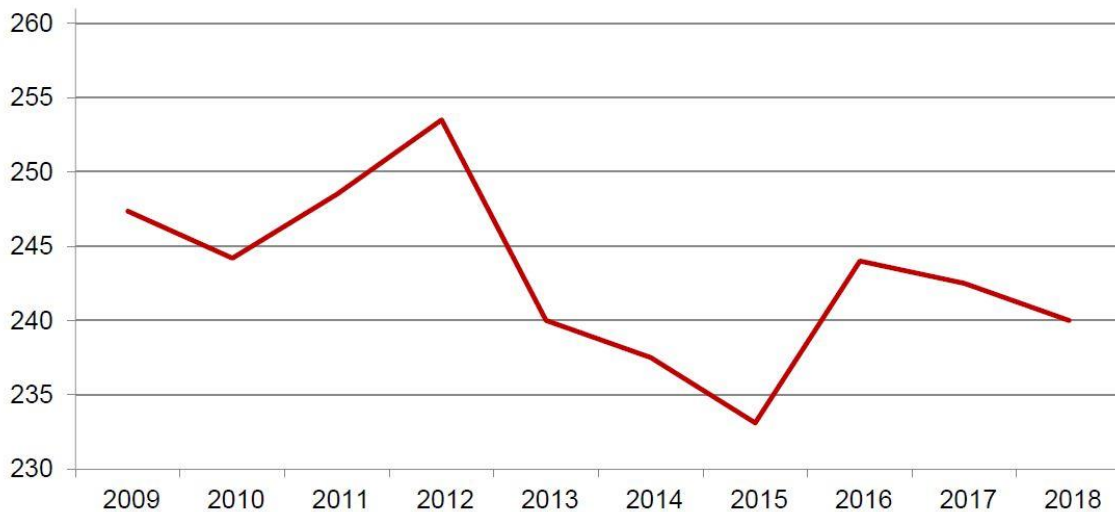
Charleston, West Virginia - Turkeys raised in West Virginia during 2018 is forecasted to be 3.6 million birds, down 3 percent from 2017.

United States - Turkeys raised in the United States during 2018 is forecasted at 240 million, down 1 percent from the number raised during 2017. A combination of six states account for nearly two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2018. The largest turkey producing state is Minnesota, at 42.5 million turkeys, up 1 percent from the previous year. North Carolina is down 5 percent

from last year, producing 31.0 million turkeys. Arkansas produced 28.5 million turkeys, which is up 8 percent from the previous year. Indiana is up 3 percent from a year ago to 20.5 million turkeys. Missouri is down 8 percent from last year, producing 17.3 million turkeys. Virginia is up 1 percent from the previous year at 17.0 million turkeys.

Number of Turkeys Raised – United States

Million head



CHICKENS AND EGGS

United States - Egg production totaled 8.91 billion during September 2018, up 4 percent from last year. Production included 7.76 billion table eggs, and 1.15 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 85.5 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during September 2018 totaled 386 million, up 3 percent from last year. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,309 eggs, up 1 percent from September 2017.

All layers in the United States on October 1, 2018 totaled 386 million, up 2 percent from last year. The 386 million layers consisted of 325 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 57.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.47 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2018, averaged

76.8 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from October 1, 2017.

Egg-type chicks hatched during September 2018 totaled 49.6 million, up 16 percent from September 2017. Eggs in incubators totaled 51.7 million on October 1, 2018, up 11 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks** for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 188 thousand during September 2018, down 1 percent from September 2017.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during September 2018 totaled 787 million, down slightly from September 2017. Eggs in incubators totaled 649 million on October 1, 2018, down slightly from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 8.33 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2018, up 1 percent from September 2017.

THIRD QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - Milk production in West Virginia totaled 27 million pounds or 3.1 million gallons during the July - September quarter of 2018. This is down 12.9 percent from the same period in 2017, and down 2 million pounds or 233,000 gallons from the April - June 2018 quarter. The number of dairy cows averaged 7,000 head, down 500 head from the same period in 2017, but unchanged from the previous quarter.

United States - Milk production in the United States during the July - September quarter totaled 54.0 billion pounds, up 0.9 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.38 million head, 27,000 head less than the April - June quarter, and 27,000 head less than the same period last year.

Note: A conversion of 8.6 pounds per gallon was used.

SMALL GRAINS SUMMARY

Charleston, West Virginia - Winter wheat production for 2018 totaled 138,000 bushels, down 50 percent from 276,000 bushels in 2017. Area harvested for grain totaled 3,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2017. Area planted totaled 7,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from last year. The average yield of 46.0 bushels per acre was down 23 bushels per acre from the previous year.

United States - All wheat production totaled 1.88 billion bushels in 2018, up 8 percent from the revised 2017 total of 1.74 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 39.6 million acres, up 5 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 47.6 bushels per acre, up 1.3 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2017 by type were: winter wheat, 1.18 billion bushels, down 7 percent; other spring wheat, 623 million bushels, up 50 percent; and Durum wheat, 77.3 million bushels, up 41 percent.

Oat production was estimated at 56.1 million bushels, up 14 percent from 2017. Yield was estimated at 64.9 bushels per acre, up 3.2 bushels from the previous year. Harvested area, at 865,000 acres, was 8 percent above last year.

Barley production was estimated at 153 million bushels, up 8 percent from the 2017 total of 142 million bushels. Average yield per acre, at 77.4 bushels, was up 4.8 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.54 million acres in 2018, up 2 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 1.98 million acres, was up 1 percent from 2017.

OCTOBER CROP PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia - All other hay production is forecast at 1,140,000 tons, up 5 percent from the August 1 forecast of 1,083,000 tons, and up 11 percent from the 2017 crop. All other hay harvested acreage is expected to total 570,000 acres in 2018, this is unchanged from the August 1 forecast, and unchanged from 2017. Yield is expected to average 2.00 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton per acre from the August 1 forecast, and up 0.20 ton per acre from 2017. The October 1 production forecast for alfalfa hay is not published for West Virginia. The next alfalfa hay estimate will be published in January 2019.

United States - Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures dry hay production for 2018 is forecast at 59.5 million tons, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 8 percent from 2017. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.43 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton from the August forecast and up 0.11 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 17.4 million acres, up 5 percent from 2017.

Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota, the top three States in area of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures in 2018, experienced drought conditions last year. Each of these States is expecting increased acres and improved yields in 2018 compared with 2017. A record high yield is expected in Pennsylvania.

Other hay production is forecast at 74.9 million tons, up 6 percent from the August forecast, but down 2 percent from 2017. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 1.98 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton from the August forecast, but down 0.07 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 37.7 million acres, up 1 percent from 2017.

Texas and Missouri, the top two States in area of other hay in 2018, are experiencing drought conditions of varying intensity. As a result, both of these States are expecting lower yields than last year. Favorable conditions in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Montana, Nebraska, and Oklahoma have producers expecting record high yields in 2018.

Corn production is forecast at 14.8 billion bushels, down slightly from the September forecast, but up 1 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 180.7 bushels per acre, down 0.6 bushel from the September forecast, but up 4.1 bushels from 2017. If realized, this will be the highest yield and second highest production on record for the United States. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 81.8 million acres, down slightly from the previous estimate, and down 1 percent from 2017. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.

Soybean production is forecast at a record 4.69 billion bushels, down slightly from September, but up 6 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average a record 53.1 bushels per acre, up 0.3 bushel from last month and up 3.8 bushels from last year. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at 88.3 million acres, down 1 percent from September and down 1 percent from 2017. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.

DECEMBER AG SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT

The West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service will be conducting the December Agricultural Survey from November 29 - December 13. Representatives from our office will be contacting farmers by telephone and personal interview. Interviewers will be collecting data on corn, soybeans, hay, winter wheat, and storage capacity. The results of this survey will be released on January 11, 2019 and will be published in the January edition of the *Mountain State Reporter* and on our website at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wv>.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. Your information matters!

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Chickens and Eggs
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